

## CLAIMS

I/we claim:

1. A cutting blade for a hand-held cutting tool, comprising:

2 a body having first and second shear faces, the first and second shear  
3 faces being spaced from one another;

4 at least three mounting holes passing through the body, a first pair of said  
5 mounting holes being spaced a predetermined mounting distance from one  
6 another and a second pair of said mounting holes being spaced said  
7 mounting distance from one another, at least one of the mounting holes of  
8 the second pair not being included in the first pair of mounting holes;

9 a first shear edge adapted to cooperate with a reciprocating cutting  
10 member to shear a workpiece, the first shear edge being spaced from the  
11 first pair of mounting holes by a fixed distance and in a fixed orientation  
12 with respect thereto; and

13 a second shear edge adapted to cooperate with the reciprocating cutting  
14 member to shear the workpiece, the second shear edge being spaced from  
15 the first shear edge, the second shear edge being spaced from the second  
16 pair of mounting holes by said fixed distance and in said fixed orientation  
17 with respect to the second pair of mounting holes.

1 2. The cutting blade of claim 1 wherein there are three mounting holes, one of  
2 the mounting holes of the first pair comprising one of the mounting holes of  
3 the second pair.

1 3. The cutting blade of claim 1 wherein the at least three mounting holes  
2 comprise a central mounting hole, a first outer mounting hole and a second  
3 outer mounting hole, the central mounting hole being spaced from each of  
4 the first and second outer mounting holes by said mounting distance, the  
5 first pair of mounting holes comprising the central mounting hole and the  
6 first outer mounting hole and the second pair of mounting holes comprising  
7 the central mounting hole and the second outer mounting hole.

1 4. The cutting blade of claim 1 further comprising a blunt first guide surface  
2 extending transversely between the first and second shear faces along a  
3 first elongate edge of the body.

4 5. The cutting blade of claim 4 wherein the first shear edge is positioned at a  
5 junction of the first guide surface and the first shear face and the second  
6 shear edge is positioned at a junction of the first guide surface and the  
7 second shear face.

1 6. The cutting blade of claim 4 wherein the first guide surface is flat to lie flush  
2 against a face of the workpiece while the workpiece is sheared.

1 7. The cutting blade of claim 1 wherein the at least three mounting holes  
2 includes a third pair of mounting holes, the mounting holes of the third pair  
3 being spaced said mounting distance from one another, at least one of the  
4 mounting holes of the third pair being included in neither of the first and  
5 second pairs of mounting holes, the cutting blade further comprising a third  
6 shear edge adapted to cooperate with the reciprocating cutting member to  
7 shear the workpiece, the third shear edge being spaced from the first and  
8 second shear edges, the third shear edge being spaced from the third pair  
9 of mounting holes by said fixed distance and in said fixed orientation with  
10 respect to the third pair of mounting holes.

1 8. The cutting blade of claim 6 wherein the at least three mounting holes  
2 includes a fourth pair of mounting holes, the mounting holes of the fourth  
3 pair being spaced said mounting distance from one another, at least one of  
4 the mounting holes of the fourth pair being included in none the first,  
5 second and third pairs of mounting holes, the cutting blade further  
6 comprising a fourth shear edge adapted to cooperate with the reciprocating  
7 cutting member to shear the workpiece, the fourth shear edge being  
8 spaced from the first, second and third shear edges, the fourth shear edge  
9 being spaced from the fourth pair of mounting holes by said fixed distance  
10 and in said fixed orientation with respect to the fourth pair of mounting  
11 holes.

1 9. A cutting blade for a hand-held cutting tool, comprising:  
2 a body having spaced-apart first and second shear faces, the first and  
3 second shear faces being parallel to one another;  
4 at least five mounting holes passing through the body and defining first,  
5 second, third and fourth pairs of mounting holes, the mounting holes of  
6 each pair being spaced a predetermined mounting distance from one  
7 another, the mounting distance being the same for each of the pairs, at  
8 least one of the mounting holes of each of the first, second, third and fourth  
9 pairs of mounting holes being included in none of the other three pairs of  
10 mounting holes; and  
11 spaced-apart first, second, third and fourth shear edges, each of which is  
12 adapted to cooperate with a reciprocating cutting member to shear a  
13 workpiece, the first shear edge being spaced from the first pair of mounting  
14 holes by a fixed distance and in a fixed orientation with respect to the first  
15 pair of mounting holes, the second shear edge being spaced from the  
16 second pair of mounting holes by said fixed distance and in said fixed  
17 orientation with respect to the second pair of mounting holes, the third

18 shear edge being spaced from the third pair of mounting holes by said fixed  
 19 distance and in said fixed orientation with respect to the third pair of  
 20 mounting holes, and the fourth shear edge being spaced from the fourth  
 21 pair of mounting holes by said fixed distance and in said fixed orientation  
 22 with respect to the fourth pair of mounting holes;

23 whereby the blade can be reoriented on a cutting head to position any one  
 24 of the first, second, third and fourth shearing edges adjacent the  
 25 reciprocating cutting member for cooperation therewith by attaching the  
 26 blade to one of the first, second, third and fourth pairs of mounting holes,  
 27 respectively.

1 10. The cutting blade of claim 9 wherein one of the mounting holes of the first  
 2 pair comprises one of the mounting holes of the second pair.

1 11. The cutting blade of claim 9 wherein one of the mounting holes of the third  
 2 pair comprises one of the mounting holes of the fourth pair.

1 12. The cutting blade of claim 9 wherein there are six mounting holes, one of  
 2 the mounting holes of the first pair comprising one of the mounting holes of  
 3 the second pair and one of the mounting holes of the third pair comprising  
 4 one of the mounting holes of the fourth pair.

1 13. The cutting blade of claim 12 wherein neither of the holes of the first pair  
 2 comprises a hole of the third or fourth pair and neither of the holes of the  
 3 second pair comprises a hole of the third or fourth pair.

1 14. The cutting blade of claim 9 further comprising spaced-apart first and  
 2 second guide surfaces, the first guide surface extending transversely  
 3 between the first and second shear faces along a first elongate edge of the  
 4 body and the second guide surface extending transversely between the  
 5 first and second shear faces along a second elongate edge of the body.

1 15. The cutting blade of claim 14 wherein each of the first and second guide  
2 surfaces are flat to lie flush against a face of the workpiece while the  
3 workpiece is sheared.

1 16. A cutting blade for a cutting tool, comprising:  
2 a body having spaced-apart first and second shear faces, the first and  
3 second shear faces defining a thickness of the body;  
4 a blunt guide surface extending between the first and second shear faces  
5 along an elongate lower edge of the body;  
6 a first shear edge defined at the junction between the guide surface and  
7 the first shear face and a second shear edge defined at the junction  
8 between the guide surface and the second shear face;  
9 at least three mounting holes, two of said mounting holes being associated  
10 with the first shear edge and being spaced from one another by a fixed  
11 mounting distance and two of said mounting holes being associated with  
12 the second shear edge and being spaced from one another by said fixed  
13 mounting distance.

1 17. The cutting blade of claim 16 wherein there are three mounting holes, a  
2 central one of the mounting holes being associated with the first and  
3 second shear edges and being equidistant from each of the other two  
4 mounting holes.

1 18. A cutting blade for a hand-held cutting tool of the type having a motor, a  
2 casing having a support adapted to carry a pair of fixed cutting blades in a  
3 spaced-apart relationship, and a reciprocating cutting member which pivots  
4 about a transverse axis to reciprocate between the fixed cutting blades, the  
5 cutting blade comprising:

6 a body having spaced-apart first and second shear faces, the first and  
7 second shear faces defining a thickness of the body;

8 a first guide surface extending between the first and second shear faces  
9 along a first elongate edge of the body;

10 a first shear edge defined at the junction between the first guide surface  
11 and the first shear face and a second shear edge defined at the junction  
12 between the first guide surface and the second shear face, the first and  
13 second shear edges being parallel to and spaced from one another by the  
14 thickness of the body;

15 a first mount adapted to mate with the support of the housing to position  
16 the first shear edge adjacent the reciprocating cutting member for shearing  
17 a workpiece and to position the second shear edge transversely outwardly  
18 of both the reciprocating cutting member and the first shear edge; and

19 a second mount adapted to mate with the support of the housing to position  
20 the second shear edge adjacent the reciprocating cutting member for  
21 shearing a workpiece and to position the first shear edge transversely  
22 outwardly of both the reciprocating cutting member and the second shear  
23 edge.

1 19. The cutting blade of claim 18 wherein the first mount comprises a first pair  
2 of mounting holes passing through the thickness of the body and being  
3 spaced a predetermined mounting distance from one another, and the  
4 second mount comprises a second pair of mounting holes passing through  
5 the thickness of the body and being spaced said mounting distance from  
6 one another.

1 20. The cutting blade of claim 19 wherein there are three mounting holes, one  
2 of the mounting holes of the first pair comprising one of the mounting holes  
3 of the second pair.

1 21. The cutting blade of claim 18 wherein the first mount comprises a central  
2 mounting point and a first distal mounting point, and the second mount  
3 comprises said central mounting point and a second distal mounting point,  
4 the first and second distal mounting points being equidistant from the  
5 central mounting point.

1 22. The cutting blade of claim 18 wherein the blade further comprises a second  
2 guide surface extending between the first and second shear faces along a  
3 second elongate edge of the body, the second guide surface being spaced  
4 from the first guide surface; a third shear edge defined at the junction  
5 between the second guide surface and the first shear face; and a fourth  
6 shear edge defined at the junction between the second guide surface and  
7 the second shear face.

1 23. The cutting blade of claim 22 wherein the blade further comprises a third  
2 mount adapted to mate with the support of the housing to position the third  
3 shear edge adjacent the reciprocating cutting member for shearing a  
4 workpiece with the fourth shear edge being spaced transversely outwardly  
5 from both the reciprocating cutting member and the third shear edge; and a  
6 fourth mount adapted to mate with the support of the housing to position  
7 the fourth shear edge adjacent the reciprocating cutting member for  
8 shearing a workpiece with the third shear edge being spaced transversely  
9 outwardly from both the reciprocating cutting member and the fourth shear  
10 edge.

1 24. A cutting head for a hand-held cutting tool of the type having a motor within  
2 a housing, the cutting head comprising:  
3 a casing adapted to connect to the housing, the casing having a casing  
4 support;

5 a first blade having a body, first and second mounts, and parallel, spaced-  
6 apart first and second shear edges;

7 a second blade having a body, first and second mounts, and parallel,  
8 spaced-apart first and second shear edges;

9 the first blade being connected to the casing support by the first mount of  
10 the first blade and the second blade being connected to the casing support  
11 by the first mount of the second blade such that the first shear edge of the  
12 second blade is parallel to and is spaced from the first shear edge of the  
13 first blade to define a gap therebetween having a predetermined gap width;  
14 and

15 a cutting member carried between the first and second blades and adapted  
16 to be coupled to the motor for reciprocal movement within the gap to shear  
17 a workpiece by cooperation of the cutting member with the first edge of the  
18 first blade and the first edge of the second blade;

19 the second mount of the first blade being positioned on the body of the first  
20 blade and the second mount of the second blade being positioned on the  
21 body of the second blade such that detaching the first and second blades  
22 from the casing and reconnecting the first and second blades to the casing  
23 support by their respective second mounts will orient the second shear  
24 edges of the first and second blades parallel to one another to define a gap  
25 therebetween having said gap width and will position the second shear  
26 edge of the first blade and the second shear edge of the second blade to  
27 cooperate with the cutting member to shear the workpiece.

1 25. The cutting head of claim 24 wherein the first and second blades are  
2 interchangeable with one another.

1 26. The cutting head of claim 24 wherein the first mount of the first blade  
2 comprises a first pair of mounting holes passing through the body of the



3 first blade at locations spaced a predetermined mounting distance from one  
4 another; the second mount of the first blade comprises a second pair of  
5 mounting holes passing through the body of the first blade at locations  
6 spaced said mounting distance from one another.

1 27. The cutting head of claim 26 wherein the first mount of the second blade  
2 comprises a first pair of mounting holes passing through the body of the  
3 second blade at locations spaced a predetermined mounting distance from  
4 one another; the second mount of the second blade comprises a second  
5 pair of mounting holes passing through the body of the second blade at  
6 locations spaced said mounting distance from one another.

1 28. The cutting head of claim 24 wherein the body of the first blade comprises  
2 first and second shear faces and a blunt first guide surface, the first shear  
3 edge of the first blade being positioned at a junction of the first guide  
4 surface and the first shear face and the second shear edge of the first  
5 blade being positioned at a junction of the first guide surface and the  
6 second shear face; and the body of the second blade comprises first and  
7 second shear faces and a blunt first guide surface, the first shear edge of  
8 the second blade being positioned at a junction of the first guide surface  
9 and the first shear face and the second shear edge of the second blade  
10 being positioned at a junction of the first guide surface and the second  
11 shear face.

1 29. The cutting head of claim 24 wherein the first blade further comprises a  
2 third mount and a third shear edge and the second blade further comprises  
3 a third mount and a third shear edge, the third mount of the first blade  
4 being positioned on the body of the first blade and the third mount of the  
5 second blade being positioned on the body of the second blade such that  
6 detaching the first and second blades from the casing and reconnecting the  
7 first and second blades to the casing support by their respective third

8 mounts will orient the third shear edges of the first and second blades  
9 parallel to one another to define a gap therebetween having said gap width  
10 and will position the third shear edge of the first blade and the third shear  
11 edge of the second blade to cooperate with the cutting member to shear  
12 the workpiece.

1 30. The cutting head of claim 29 wherein the first blade further comprises a  
2 fourth mount and a fourth shear edge and the second blade further  
3 comprises a fourth mount and a fourth shear edge, the fourth mount of the  
4 first blade being positioned on the body of the first blade and the fourth  
5 mount of the second blade being positioned on the body of the second  
6 blade such that detaching the first and second blades from the casing and  
7 reconnecting the first and second blades to the casing support by their  
8 respective fourth mounts will orient the fourth shear edges of the first and  
9 second blades parallel to one another to define a gap therebetween having  
10 said gap width and will position the fourth shear edge of the first blade and  
11 the fourth shear edge of the second blade to cooperate with the cutting  
12 member to shear the workpiece.

1 31. A cutting blade for a cutting tool, comprising:  
2 a body having parallel first and second shear faces, the first and second  
3 shear faces being spaced from one another to define a thickness of the  
4 body;  
5 opposed first and second guide surfaces, the first guide surface extending  
6 between the first and second shear faces along a first elongate edge of the  
7 body and the second guide surface extending between the first and second  
8 shear faces along a second elongate edge of the body;  
9 a first shear edge defined at the junction between the first guide surface  
10 and the first shear face and a first pair of mounting points associated with

11 the first shear edge, the first pair of mounting points comprising first and  
12 second mounting points spaced from one another by a fixed distance;

13 a second shear edge defined at the junction between the first guide surface  
14 and the second shear face and a second pair of mounting points  
15 associated with the second shear edge, the second pair of mounting points  
16 comprising first and second mounting points spaced from one another by  
17 said fixed distance;

18 a third shear edge defined at the junction between the second guide  
19 surface and the first shear face and a third pair of mounting points  
20 associated with the third shear edge, the third pair of mounting points  
21 comprising first and second mounting points spaced from one another by  
22 said fixed distance; and

23 a fourth shear edge defined at the junction between the second guide  
24 surface and the second shear face and a fourth pair of mounting points  
25 associated with the fourth shear edge, the fourth pair of mounting points  
26 comprising first and second mounting points spaced from one another by  
27 said fixed distance.

1 32. The cutting blade of claim 31 wherein the first mount point of each of the  
2 first, second, third and fourth pairs of mounting points comprises a hole  
3 passing through the thickness of the body.

1 33. The cutting blade of claim 31 wherein each of the mounting points  
2 comprises a hole passing through the thickness of the body.

1 34. The cutting blade of claim 31 wherein the first mounting point of the first  
2 pair of mounting points is also the first mounting point of the second pair of  
3 mounting points.

1 35. The cutting blade of claim 31 wherein the first mounting point of the third  
2 pair of mounting points is also the first mounting point of the fourth pair of  
3 mounting points.

1 36. The cutting blade of claim 31 wherein the first shear edge is parallel to  
2 each of the second, third and fourth shear edges.

1 37. A cutting blade for a hand-held cutting tool, comprising:

2 a body having parallel first and second shear faces, the first and second  
3 shear faces being spaced from one another to define a thickness of the  
4 body;

5 at least six mounting holes passing through the thickness of the body, a  
6 first pair of the mounting holes being spaced a predetermined mounting  
7 distance from one another; a second pair of said mounting holes being  
8 spaced said mounting distance from one another, at least one of the  
9 mounting holes of the second pair not being included in the first pair of  
10 mounting holes; a third pair of said mounting holes being spaced said  
11 mounting distance from one another, at least one of the mounting holes of  
12 the third pair being included in neither the first pair nor the second pair of  
13 mounting holes; a fourth pair of said mounting holes being spaced said  
14 mounting distance from one another, at least one of the mounting holes of  
15 the fourth pair being included in none of the first pair, the second pair and  
16 the third pair of mounting holes;

17 spaced-apart first and second guides surfaces, the first guide surface  
18 extending transversely between the first and second shear faces along a  
19 first elongate edge of the body and the second guide surface extending  
20 transversely between the first and second shear faces along a second  
21 elongate edge of the body, the first and second guide surfaces being  
22 parallel to one another;

23 a first shear edge adapted to cooperate with a reciprocating cutting  
24 member to shear a workpiece, the first shear edge being spaced from the  
25 first pair of mounting holes by a fixed distance and in a fixed orientation  
26 with respect to the first pair of mounting holes;

27 a second shear edge adapted to cooperate with the reciprocating cutting  
28 member to shear the workpiece, the second shear edge being spaced from  
29 and parallel to the first shear edge, the second shear edge being spaced  
30 from the second pair of mounting holes by said fixed distance and in said  
31 fixed orientation with respect to the second pair of mounting holes;

32 a third shear edge adapted to cooperate with the reciprocating cutting  
33 member to shear the workpiece, the third shear edge being spaced from  
34 and parallel to the first shear edge and the second shear edge, the third  
35 shear edge being spaced from the third pair of mounting holes by said fixed  
36 distance and in said fixed orientation with respect to the third pair of  
37 mounting holes;

38 a fourth shear edge adapted to cooperate with the reciprocating cutting  
39 member to shear the workpiece, the fourth shear edge being spaced from  
40 and parallel to the first shear edge, the second shear edge and the third  
41 shear edge, the fourth shear edge being spaced from the fourth pair of  
42 mounting holes by said fixed distance and in said fixed orientation with  
43 respect to the fourth pair of mounting holes;

44 whereby the blade can be reoriented on a cutting head to position any one  
45 of the first, second, third and fourth shearing edges adjacent the  
46 reciprocating cutting member for cooperation therewith to shear the  
47 workpiece by attaching the blade to one of the first, second, third and  
48 fourth pairs of mounting holes, respectively.

1 38. A cutting head for a hand-held cutting tool of the type having a motor within  
2 a housing, the cutting head comprising:

a casing adapted to connect to the housing and carrying a pair of mounting rods, the mounting rods being spaced from one another by a fixed mounting distance;

a first blade including:

a body having spaced-apart first and second shear faces;

at least six mounting holes passing through the body, a first pair of the mounting holes being spaced said mounting distance from one another; a second pair of the mounting holes being spaced said mounting distance from one another, at least one of the mounting holes of the second pair not being included in the first pair of mounting holes; a third pair of the mounting holes being spaced said mounting distance from one another, at least one of the mounting holes of the third pair being included in neither the first pair nor the second pair of mounting holes; a fourth pair of the mounting holes being spaced said mounting distance from one another, at least one of the mounting holes of the fourth pair being included in none of the first pair, the second pair and the third pair of mounting holes;

spaced-apart first and second guides surfaces, the first guide surface extending transversely between the first and second shear faces along a first elongate edge of the body and the second guide surface extending transversely between the first and second shear faces along a second elongate edge of the body;

a first shear edge spaced from the first pair of mounting holes by a fixed distance and in a fixed orientation with respect to the first pair of mounting holes; a second shear edge spaced from the second pair of mounting holes by said fixed distance and in said fixed orientation with respect to the second pair of mounting holes; a third shear edge spaced from the third pair of mounting holes by said fixed distance and in said fixed orientation with respect to the third

pair of mounting holes; and a fourth shear edge spaced from the fourth pair of mounting holes by said fixed distance and in said fixed orientation with respect to the fourth pair of mounting holes;

a second blade including:

a body having spaced-apart first and second shear faces;

at least six mounting holes passing through the body, a first pair of the mounting holes being spaced said mounting distance from one another; a second pair of the mounting holes being spaced said mounting distance from one another, at least one of the mounting holes of the second pair not being included in the first pair of mounting holes; a third pair of the mounting holes being spaced said mounting distance from one another, at least one of the mounting holes of the third pair being included in neither the first pair nor the second pair of mounting holes; a fourth pair of the mounting holes being spaced said mounting distance from one another, at least one of the mounting holes of the fourth pair being included in none of the first pair, the second pair and the third pair of mounting holes;

spaced-apart first and second guides surfaces, the first guide surface extending transversely between the first and second shear faces along a first elongate edge of the body and the second guide surface extending transversely between the first and second shear faces along a second elongate edge of the body;

a first shear edge spaced from the first pair of mounting holes by a fixed distance and in a fixed orientation with respect to the first pair of mounting holes; a second shear edge spaced from the second pair of mounting holes by said fixed distance and in said fixed orientation with respect to the second pair of mounting holes; a third shear edge spaced from the third pair of mounting holes by said fixed distance and in said fixed orientation with respect to the third

61 pair of mounting holes; and a fourth shear edge spaced from the  
 62 fourth pair of mounting holes by said fixed distance and in said fixed  
 63 orientation with respect to the fourth pair of mounting holes;

64 the mounting rods of the casing passing through the first pair of mounting  
 65 holes of the first blade and the first pair of mounting holes of the second  
 66 blade to releasably connect the first and second blades to the casing, the  
 67 first shear edge of the first blade being parallel to the first shear edge of  
 68 the second blade to define a gap therebetween having a predetermined  
 69 width;

70 a cutting member carried between the first and second blades and adapted  
 71 to be coupled to the motor for reciprocal movement within the gap to shear  
 72 a workpiece by cooperation of the cutting member with the first shear edge  
 73 of the first blade and the first shear edge of the second blade;

74 whereby each of the first and second blades can be detached from the  
 75 casing, rotated, and reattached to the casing by passing the mounting rods  
 76 through the second, third or fourth pairs of mounting holes of the blade to  
 77 position any one of the second, third and fourth shearing edges,  
 78 respectively, of the blade to cooperate with the cutting member to shear the  
 79 workpiece.

1 39. A replacement set of cutting blades for use in connection with a hand-held  
 2 cutting tool of the type having a motor, a casing having a support adapted  
 3 to carry a pair of fixed cutting blades in a spaced-apart relationship, and a  
 4 reciprocating cutting member which pivots about a transverse axis to  
 5 reciprocate between the fixed cutting blades, the replacement set of cutting  
 6 blades comprising:

7 a first blade including:

8 a body having spaced-apart first and second shear faces, the first  
 9 and second shear faces defining a thickness of the body;



10 a first guide surface extending between the first and second shear  
 11 faces along a first elongate edge of the body;

12 a first shear edge defined at the junction between the first guide  
 13 surface and the first shear face and a second shear edge defined at  
 14 the junction between the first guide surface and the second shear  
 15 face, the first and second shear edges being parallel to and spaced  
 16 from one another by the thickness of the body;

17 a first mount adapted to mate with the support of the housing to  
 18 position the first shear edge adjacent the reciprocating cutting  
 19 member for shearing a workpiece and to position the second shear  
 20 edge transversely outwardly of both the reciprocating cutting  
 21 member and the first shear edge; and

22 a second mount adapted to mate with the support of the housing to  
 23 position the second shear edge adjacent the reciprocating cutting  
 24 member for shearing a workpiece and to position the first shear  
 25 edge transversely outwardly of both the reciprocating cutting  
 26 member and the second shear edge; and

27 a second blade including:

28 a body having spaced-apart first and second shear faces, the first  
 29 and second shear faces defining a thickness of the body;

30 a first guide surface extending between the first and second shear  
 31 faces along a first elongate edge of the body;

32 a first shear edge defined at the junction between the first guide  
 33 surface and the first shear face and a second shear edge defined at  
 34 the junction between the first guide surface and the second shear  
 35 face, the first and second shear edges being parallel to and spaced  
 36 from one another by the thickness of the body;

37 a first mount adapted to mate with the support of the housing to  
38 position the first shear edge adjacent the reciprocating cutting  
39 member for shearing a workpiece and to position the second shear  
40 edge transversely outwardly of both the reciprocating cutting  
41 member and the first shear edge; and

42 a second mount adapted to mate with the support of the housing to  
43 position the second shear edge adjacent the reciprocating cutting  
44 member for shearing a workpiece and to position the first shear  
45 edge transversely outwardly of both the reciprocating cutting  
46 member and the second shear edge.

1 40. A method of reconfiguring a cutting head for a hand-held cutting tool, the  
2 cutting head having a casing adapted to carry first and second blades, and  
3 a reciprocating cutting member which reciprocates between the first and  
4 second blades, each of the first and second cutting blades including a body  
5 having spaced-apart first and second shear edges, the first shear edge  
6 being adjacent the reciprocating cutting member for cooperation therewith  
7 and the second edge being spaced transversely outwardly of both the  
8 reciprocating cutting member and the first shear edge, a first mount mating  
9 with the casing, and a second mount adapted to mate with casing, the  
10 method including the steps of:

11 \_ detaching the first mount of the first blade from the casing;

12 \_ turning the body of the first blade;

13 mating the second mount of the first blade to the casing to attach the first  
14 blade to the casing, thereby positioning the second shear edge of the first  
15 blade adjacent the reciprocating cutting member for shearing a workpiece  
16 and positioning the first shear edge of the first blade transversely outwardly  
17 of both the reciprocating cutting member and the second shear edge of the  
18 first blade.

1 41. The method of claim 40 further comprising cutting the workpiece with the  
2 second shear edge of the first blade by reciprocating the reciprocating  
3 cutting member after mating the second mount of the first blade to the  
4 casing.

1 42. The method of claim 40 further comprising:  
2 detaching the first mount of the second blade from the casing;  
3 turning the body of the second blade;  
4 mating the second mount of the second blade to the casing to attach the  
5 first blade to the casing, thereby positioning the second shear edge of the  
6 second blade adjacent the reciprocating cutting member for shearing a  
7 workpiece and positioning the first shear edge of the second blade  
8 transversely outwardly of both the reciprocating cutting member and the  
9 second shear edge of the second blade.

1 43. The method of claim 42 further comprising cutting the workpiece with the  
2 second shear edge of the first blade and the second shear edge of the  
3 second blade by reciprocating the reciprocating cutting member after  
4 mating the second mount of the first blade to the casing.